

in the grooved cross members, into which holes the bolts are inserted.

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Claim 18. The track support of Claim 11, further comprising washers installed beneath the heads of the bolts and which cover a segment of the holes installed in the web flanges or the stator support web plates for the fixing pins.--

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to eliminate multiple dependency, and to present the claims in proper format for domestic prosecution.

For the record, Applicants emphasize that although the claims were amended, and, therefore, might be argued to have been amended for a reason substantially related to patentability, a fair reading of the amended claims will reveal that the departures from the previous claims were for clarification purposes only, and that Applicants did not narrow the claims in any material respect. Therefore, Applicants submit that the amended claims are entitled to the full range of equivalents.

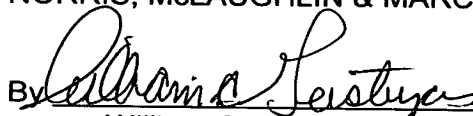
Favorable action is respectfully solicited.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess, to Deposit Account No.
14-1263.

Respectfully submitted,

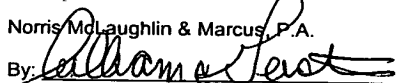
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MARKED-UP COPIES OF AMENDED CLAIMS,
SHOWING CHANGES RELATIVE TO PREVIOUS VERSION

Claim 1 (amended). Track support [(1)] for the track of a magnetic levitation railway, [consisting] comprised of a steel support, which is [preferably] optionally fully welded in a fully automatic manner and has a closed hollow trapezoidal or hollow triangular cross section with closed end faces, the cover plate [(2)] of which support, forming [the] an upper chord, projects, in the manner of a jib [(7, 8)], with its longitudinal edge sections over [the] side wall web plates [(4,5)], which converge at an angle to the mid-vertical plane [(3)] of the track support, and at each end of which cover plate a side guidance rail [(9, 10)] is arranged, [characterized in that] wherein a stator support web plate [(11, 12)], which runs parallel to the mid-vertical plane [(3)] of the track support [(1)], is arranged on the underside of each jib [(7, 8)], and between the ground-side end section of which plate and the adjacent side wall web plate [(4, 5)] on the one hand and the adjacent side guidance rail [(9, 10)] on the other hand, horizontal plates [(13, 14, 15, 16)] are provided with formation of closed cavities [(17, 18, 19, 20)], with two web flanges [(23, 24, 25, 26)] running parallel to one another being arranged per jib on the underside of the plates [(13, 14, 15, 16)], between which flanges the grooved cross members [(29)] supporting the stator packs [(27, 28)] are screwed.

Claim 2 (amended). Track support according to Claim 1, [characterized in that] wherein the stator support web plates [(11, 12)] are arranged in the vertical load plane [(21, 22)] of the set-down zone of the jib [(7, 8)].

Claim 3 (amended). Track support according to [one of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that] Claim 1, wherein the distance of the web flanges [(23, 24, 25, 26)] from the vertical load plane [(21, 22)] including the set-down zone is of equal size.

Claim 4 (amended). Track support [(1)] for the track of a magnetic levitation railway, [consisting] comprising of a steel support, which is [preferably] optionally fully welded in a fully automatic manner and has a closed hollow trapezoidal or hollow triangular cross section with closed end faces, the cover plate [(2)] of which support, forming [the] an upper chord, projects, in the manner of a jib [(7, 8)], with its longitudinal edge sections over the web plates [(4,5)], which form the side walls and which converge at an angle to the mid-vertical plane [(3)] of the track support, and at each end of which cover plate a side guidance rail [(9, 10)] is arranged, [characterized in that] wherein two stator support web plates [(45, 46)] installed parallel to the mid-vertical plane [(3)] of the track support [(1)] and running at a distance from one another are attached to the underside of each jib [(7, 8)] and between the ground-side end sections of which plates [the] grooved cross members [(29)] inserted into the jib-side cross grooves of the stator packs [(27, 28)] and supporting the latter are screwed, where horizontal plates [(49, 50)] are attached between the first stator support web plate [(45)] and the adjacent side wall web plate [(5)] on the one hand and the other stator support web plate [(46)] and the adjacent side guidance rails [(10)] on the other hand, with formation of closed cavities [(47, 48)].

Claim 5 (amended). Track support according to Claim 4, [characterized in that] wherein the cavity [(51)] existing between the stator support web plates [(45, 46)] is closed

off by a horizontal plate.

Claim 6 (amended). Track support according to [one of Claims 4 and 5, characterized in that] Claim 4, wherein the distance of the stator web plates [(45, 46)] from the vertical load plane [(22)] running through the set-down zone is of equal size.

Claim 7 (amended). Track support [(1)] for the track of a magnetic levitation railway, consisting of a steel support, which is [preferably] optionally fully welded in a fully automatic manner and has a closed hollow trapezoidal or hollow triangular cross section with closed end faces, the cover plate [(2)] of which support, forming [the] an upper chord, projects, in the manner of a jib [(7, 8)], with its longitudinal edge sections over the side wall web plates [(4,5)], which converge at an angle to the mid-vertical plane [(3)] of the track support, and at each end of which cover plate a side guidance rail [(9, 10)] is arranged, [characterized in that] wherein stator support web plates [(52, 53)], which are brought together at an acute angle of from 15 to 30°, are attached to the underside of the jibs [(7, 8)] beneath the set-down zone, and between the ground-side end sections of these plates are screwed [the] grooved cross members [(29)], which are inserted into the jib-side cross grooves of the stator packs [(27, 28)] and support the latter, with horizontal plates [(56, 57)] being attached between the first stator support web plate [(52)] and the adjacent side wall web plate [(5)] on the one hand and the other stator support web plate [(53)] and the adjacent side guidance rail [(10)] on the other hand, with formation of closed cavities [(54, 55)].

Claim 8 (amended). Track support according to Claim 7, [characterized in that] wherein the line bisecting the angle between the stator support web plates [(52, 53)], which converge at an acute angle, runs in the vertical load plane [(22)] of the set-down zone.

Claim 9 (amended). Track support according to [one of Claims 7 and 8, characterized in that] Claim 7, wherein the cavity [(58)] existing between the stator support web plates [(52, 53)] is closed at the bottom by a horizontally arranged plate [(59)].

Claim 10 (amended). Track support according to [one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized by] Claim 1, further comprising holes [(32, 33)] installed in the web flanges [(25, 26)] or the stator support web plates [(45, 46, 52, 53)] and corresponding to threaded holes [(34)] present in the grooved cross members [(29)], into which holes [(32, 33)] the bolts [(30, 31)] are inserted.

Claim 11 (amended). Track support according to Claim 10, [characterized by] wherein blind holes [(41, 42)] are arranged in the web flanges [(25, 26)] or the stator support web plates [(45, 46, 52, 53)] axially parallel to the bolts [(30, 31)] in the grooved cross members [(29)], into each of which blind holes a fixing pin [(35, 36)] is inserted with formation of an annular space [(39, 40)] having a width of from 0.5 to 5 mm and is pressed into holes [(37, 38)] of the web flange or stator support web plates which correspond to the blind holes.

Claim 12 (amended). Track support according to [one of Claims 10 and 11,

characterized by] Claim 10, further comprising washers [(43, 44), which are] installed beneath the heads of the bolts [(30, 31)] and which cover a segment of the holes [(37, 38)] installed in the web flanges [(25, 26)] or the stator support web plates [(45, 46, 52, 53)] for the fixing pins [(35, 36)].